**Romeo & Juliet Webquest English9**

By Matt Kosanovich  
**Directions:**

**About Shakespeare**  
click on [this link](http://shakespeare.palomar.edu/timeline/timeline.htm) and answer the following questions (1-7).

1. Click on the link to Birth 1564 & Early Years. William Shakespeare was born in what year?

* **William Shakespeare was born in 1564.**

1. What date do we recognize as his birthday?

* **We recognize his birthday as April 23rd, 1564.**

1. What was important about Stratford-upon-Avon in the 16th century?

* **Stratford-upon-Avon was an important agricultural center and market town.**

1. Click on the link for 1594 and find the acting companies Shakespeare was associated with in the early days. Name one.

* **One association Shakespeare was with in the early days was The Queen’s Men.**

1. Click on 1599 The Great Globe. What is the probable year that Romeo and Juliet was written?

* **Romeo and Juliet was probably written in 1595.**

1. Scroll down to the section "Construction of the Globe," and answer these questions:
   1. Where did the timbers to build the Globe come from?

* **The timbers came from the Theatre.** 
  1. Who was the carpenter who built the Globe?
* **The Globe was built by a Peter Smith.**
  1. What was Shakespeare's share as "householder?"
* **Shakespeare's share, as a "householder" was one-fifth of fifty percent of the profits, or 10% of the total profits.**

1. What day and year did Shakespeare die? Why is this an *interesting* date? How old was Shakespeare when he died?

* **Shakespeare died on April 23rd, 1616. This is an interesting date because he was born on the same day. Shakespeare was 52 when he died.**

**About Marriage**  
Click on [this link](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/9.html) and answer the next questions (8-10).

1. Romeo & Juliet marry secretly, but because she is trying to escape the arranged marriage to Paris. Read this site about marriage in Elizabethan England and answer these questions.
   1. What does betrothal mean?

* **A betrothal is an event where two people join hands, he gives her a ring that is worn on her right hand, and it changes to the left at the wedding.** 
  1. Name three marriage and betrothal customs found on this page.
* **Three marriage and betrothal customs are that the garland should be rosemary and roses; the father of the bride usually pays for the festivities, and the bride takes her husbands family name in marriage.**

1. Click on the link for "more wedding customs."
   1. What color should the bride's dress be?

* **The dress shouldn’t be white. It should be any fashionable or current color or cut.** 
  1. How the intention to marry is announced? What happens if it is not announced previous to the event?
* **The** **intention is announced three times in the church on three consecutive Sundays. If it is not announced then it is considered clandestine.** 
  1. Describe the wedding procession.
* **The wedding procession starts with everyone entering the church and they stand through the ritual. Then the wedding is a religious ceremony conducted by a minister.** 
  1. What is a dowry?
* **A dowry is an amount of money, goods, and property the bride brings to the marriage.**

1. Explain how important is a wedding ring to the Elizabethans?

* **The wedding ring isn’t very important to the Elizabethans because in some portraits, the people aren’t wearing a ring at all.**

**About Food**  
Click on [this link](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/46.html) and continue (11-13).

1. How many meals do people generally eat each day?

* **People generally eat two meals each day.**

1. Click [here](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/38.html). Why would people in Shakespeare's day not know what a chocolate chip cookie is?

* **They wouldn’t know what a chocolate chip cookie was because chocolate hasn’t come in yet, except for medicinal purposes.**

1. Lord Capulet throws a huge party, feast and all. Imagine you are in charge of that menu. Luckily for you, today you only have to plan a menu for a small dinner party. Be sure to use only [food available in Europe](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/47.html) during this time. Choose at least two vegetables, two meats, and two fruits or nuts.

* **Two vegetables are garlic and celery. Two meats are beef and chicken. Two fruits are apples and lemons. Two nuts are almonds and hazelnuts.**

## Web quest PART 2

**About Language**  
Click on [this link](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/20.html) and continue (14-16).

1. A famous line from *Romeo and Juliet* is when Juliet says, "Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?" What does "wherefore" mean?

* **“Wherefore” means why.**

1. What does "stay" mean?

* **“Stay” means to wait.**

1. [Click here](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/29.html) to get the information you need to translate this conversation. Put your translation in column two. Keep the phrases just about the same, but use Elizabethan words where you can. So, in other words, you rewrite the entire phrase but replace as many words as you can using Elizabethan English.

|| **Person A** || Hello. (A sneezes) Excuse me. || ||- **Good day. (Sneezes) forgive me.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Person B** | Gesundheit!-**God save you!** |  |
| **A** | Thank you.-**Gramercy, I thank thee, my thanks, or god reward thee.** |  |
| **B** | Say, do you know where the closest bathroom is? **Say, do you know where the closest privy is?** |  |
| **A** | Certainly. It's down the street in the Kings Tavern.-**Certes. It’s down the street in the Kings Tavern.** |  |
| **B** | Thanks. Goodbye.-**Gramercy. Farewell.** |  |

**About Theatre in Shakespeare's Time**  
"[Actors, Acting, & Audience](http://www.uni-koeln.de/phil-fak/englisch/shakespeare/)" is the link for the next questions (16-19).

1. How many women actors did the company usually feature?

* **There were only men or boy actors, no women.**

1. Was Shakespeare an actor? What was the term used to refer to actors?

* **Shakespeare was an actor, and the term used to refer to actors is “players”.**

1. How were the seating arrangements for the audience? How did one get a good seat?

* **The arrangements for the audience were a first come first served basis. In order to get a good seat, they would have to be one of the first ones there.**

1. What would the audience do if they did not like a performance?

* **They would pelt the actor with oranges or anything handy.**

**Shakespearean Insults**

1. Go to the [Shakespearean Insult Kit](http://www.mit.edu:8001/people/dryfoo/Funny-pages/shakespeare-insult-kit.html) and create your own insult. How you do it is to start with the word "Thou." Next, take a phrase/word from the first column to begin your insult, continue by adding something from the second column, and finish it up royally with something from the third column. Type your own personal Shakespearean insult in the table below. [Thou + choice from column 1 + choice from column 2 + choice from column 3 = your custom made insult].

* **Thou paunchy elf-skinned dewberry.**